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THE GUIDE

Arts & Music: A selective listing from Calendar's critics and writers of noteworthy arts and music this week, by category, in chronological order except for continuing events.

THEATER

Capsule reviews are by PHILIP BRANDES (P.B.), F. KATHLEEN FOLEY (F.K.F.), MARGARET GRAY (M.G.), CHARLES MCNULTY (C.M.) and DAVID C. NICHOLS (D.C.N.) Compiled by MATT COOPER.

Openings

Wyzrock Staged reading of Georg Buchner's 19th-century drama about a soldier's descent into madness. A Noise Within, 3852 E. Foothill Blvd., Pasadena. Mon., 7 p.m. Free. (626) 356-3100.

The Grift at the Lafayette Hotel La Jolla Playhouse's Without Walls series presents this world premiere, interactive show about a sham artist. Lafayette Hotel, 2223 El Cajon Blvd., San Diego. Thu., 7 p.m.; Fri., 6 and 8:30 p.m.; Sat., noon, 3, 5 and 8:30 p.m.; ends Feb. 22. $35-$45. (858) 550-1010.

Rodney King Roger Guenveur Smith's solo show about the man whose videotaped beating by LAPD officers ultimately sparked the 1992 L.A. riots, part of the Off Center Festival. Ford Amphitheatre, Supervision Center for the Arts, 4590 Town Center Drive, Costa Mesa. Thu.-Fri., 7:30 p.m. $25. (714) 556-2787.

Mandy Gonzalez The Broadway veteran ("In the Heights") performs. Catalina Bar & Grill, 6725 Sunset Blvd., Hollywood. Tue.-Wed., 8:30 p.m. $25, $45. (866) 468-3399.

Dame Edna's Glorious Goodbye — The Farewell Tour Comic and drag performer Barry Humphries' alter-ego returns for a last hurrah. Australian Theatre, 135 N. Grand Ave., L.A. Wed.-Fri., 8 p.m.; Sat., 2 p.m.; next Sun., 1 and 6:30 p.m.; ends March 15. $25-$125. (213) 972-4400. **Diary on Page F4**

Murder for Two Joe Kinosian and Kellen Blair's musical, recently reprised, performed by just two actors, about a murder mystery at a suburban 30th birthday party. The Old Globe, 1363 Old Globe Way, San Diego. Thu., 7 p.m.; Fri., 8 p.m.; Sat., 3 and 8 p.m.; next Sun., 2 and 7 p.m.; ends March 1. $29 and up. (619) 234-5623.

The Wong Street Journal Writer-performer Khirin Wong's new solo-comedy, part of the Off Center Festival, marks Performance Space Segerstrom Center for the Arts, 600 Town Center Drive, Costa Mesa. Thu.-Fri., 7:30 p.m. $25. (714) 556-2787.

Swing Improvised musical based on audience suggestions. Knitwell Theatre Hollywood, 1714 N. Vermont Ave., L.A. Thu., 8 p.m. $12-$15. (323) 969-1360.

Weird On Top Improv-comedy troupe performs. Robert's Company Theatre, 1714 N. Vermont Ave., L.A. Fri., 10:30 p.m. $5. (323) 969-1360.

Ghosts of the Underground Tale of romance and murder, featuring live music and dance, presented in-the-round. Zombie Joe's Underground Theatre Group, 4616 Lankershim Blvd., North Hollywood. Fri.-Sat., 8:30 p.m.; ends Feb. 21. $15. (323) 232-4258.

Tristan & Yseult British theatre company Kneehigh puts its own spin on the medieval romantic epic. South Coast Repertory, Segerstrom Stage, 655 Town Center Drive, Costa Mesa. Sat., 3:30 and 8 p.m.; next Sun., 2:30 and 7:30 p.m.; ends Feb. 22. $22 and up. (714) 708-5555.

I'll Drink To That Alexander Rodriguez shares songs and stories in the L.A. Theatre Works' Solo Mio series. The LAST Center Restored, Skirball Cultural Center, 2701 N. Vermont Ave., L.A. 8 p.m. $15-$25. (323) 409-2150.

The Missing Pages of Lewis Carroll Lily Bina's explorations of the author's relationship with the young girl who inspired "Alice in Wonderland." The Theatre @ Boston Court, 70 N. Mentor Ave., Pasadena. Sat., 8 p.m.; next Sun., 2 p.m.; ends March 1. $30; discounts available. (626) 683-6883.

The Pitchfork Disney Cleavage Theatre Company stages Philip Ridley's dark fable about two agoraphobic twins, for mature audiences. The Lyric Hyperion Theatre & Cafe, 2656 Hyperion Ave., Silver Lake. Sat., 8 p.m.; ends March 8. Pay what you want. (323) 644-2345.

Redhead Clement staged performance of the Tony-winning musical about a murderer set to music in early 20th-century London. Theatre West, 3333 Cahuenga Blvd. W., L.A. Sat., 8 p.m.; next Sun., 2 p.m.; ends Feb. 5. $15-$30. (323) 851-7977.

The Adventures of Harold and the Purple Crayon Family-friendly bike based on the children's books. Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts, 12700 Center Court Drive, Cerritos. Sun., 3 p.m. $9, $16. (562) 467-6500.

Critics' Choices

Billy Elliot: The Musical Although this movie-to-production of Elton John and Lee Hall's Tony-winning adaptation of the beloved Stephen Daldry film has its moments, particularly when the focus appears to be properly on the dancing, the elements are unlikely to stir that proclaim it their absolute enjoyment. Director Brian Kite oversees a sleeker, sparer physical realization than London and New York witnessed, which actually serves the storytelling beautifully, and the fervent cast surges from windy predecessor to truly inspired, led by the astonishing Mitchell Tobin, whose dancer-turned-actor performance when I saw it bounded with a confidence destined for great things ahead. (D.C.N.) La Mirada Theatre for the Performing Arts, 14900 La Mirada Blvd., La Mirada. Today 2 p.m., Wed.-Thu., 7:30 p.m.; Fri., 8 p.m.; Sat., 2 and 8 p.m.; next Sun., 2 p.m.; ends Feb. 5. 562-944-9801, ext. 3. $29-$79; discounts available. (562) 944-3801.

Hershey Felder as Irving Berlin That indefatigable purveyor of composers Hershey Felder applies his singular blend of seamed biography, character study and piano virtuosity toward the iconic American songwriter. Although the thinly entertaining, all-Berlin evening hasn't much stand-alone theatrical substance, it's a treat for those who relish the performance. The sympathy, showmanship and craft artistry may just be the best matters of his-torical figure and performing artist yet in this franchise, which returned to a previously participating audience. (D.C.N.) Laguna Playhouse, 606 Laguna Canyon Road, Laguna Beach. Today, 1 and 5:30 p.m.; Tue.-Fri., 7:30 p.m.; Sat., 2 and 7:30 p.m.; next Sun., 1 and 6:30 p.m.; ends Feb. 8. $40-$60. (949) 497-2787.

Smoke and Mirrors An actor and Magic Castle illusionist Alfie Bellenick imparts theatrical magic show explores the connections between his life and art, perhaps his greatest feat is making any trace of boredom completely disappear. (P.B.) Odyssey Theatre, 2055 S. Sepulveda Blvd., West L.A. Today, 3 p.m.; Thu.-Sat., 8 p.m.; next Sun., 3 p.m.; ends March 15. $34. (310) 477-2055.

MUSIC

Pop

Picks by MIKAEL WOOD, RANDALL ROBERTS and RANDY LEWIS

The Vaccines Part of the late-'00s Scottish indie-pop scene. This group spent its brief original run in hipster obscurity, turning out eight-and-one full-length, 2010's "Dare-Dare," that sounded like a mash-up of the Strokes' scrappy garage rock and shiny with the energy and sweet, reassuring adult issues from a cricket-like perspective but release the ringing camera typical of many of its indie pop successors. Karl Cabalu of 30-mins was a very Vaccines fan and covered several of the band's songs (including "Boy of a Gun" and "Some Wants Me for a Sunburn"), which led her bandmates into Sub Pop to release a retrospective in 1995. The band has since moved on to more mainstream orchestral albums. (M.W.) Roxy, 9009 Sunset Blvd., West Hollywood. 8 p.m. Wed. $25-$35. Contemporaneous.

Patti Smith Among the pleas and interviews, poets and hacks coming from Smith on stage at the Wiltern at a BBB L.A. show, the beloved crew of "free money" "Gloria" and "Dancing Barefoot" will be the ones to watch and for cues about Jersey Justice, Bruce Springsteen and the birth of "Because the Night." The singer, poet and National Book Award-winning iconoclast stepped a rage piece of advice to the crowd. "You don't have to go to school," she said. "Just come to our concerts." She loaded within her limits, big-idea songs with meditations on healing, lost, the past and the future, and a cover of Neil Young's "Rockin' in the Free World." Smith at the Arts, 930 S. Broadway Ave., L.A. 8:30 p.m. Thu.-Fri. $35 and tickets.com.

Sam Smith about onstage at Staples Center in December and recalled that the last time he was there, in January, he was watching the Grammy Awards ceremony — then "way, way in the back." Less than a year later, the British singer will be one of the show's headliners across Friday night as one of the biggest stars of $2015 Pitch artist Jingle Ball concert. And he did it early years after being nominated for half a dozen 2015 Grammys, including album, record and song of the year as well as best new artist. Things, it's safe to say, have moved quickly for Smith. (M.W.) Forum, 3900 W. Manchester Blvd., Inglewood. 7 p.m. $39.50-$69. Ticketmaster.com.

Haden Triplett What possible street cred could there be in a roots-country record sung by three New Yorkers, Los Angeles-reared sisters and produced by a guy who grew up surrounded by the surf and sand of Santa Monica? Plenty, as it turned out, when the singers are Petra, Tanya and Rachel Haden, the triplet daughters of jazz bass luminary Charlie Haden, and that producer happens to be Jay Dunder. It's worth knowing that before the triplets' dad earned his stripes in the jazz world, Charlie spent many formative years traveling and performing country music with his family throughout the Midwest — a personal history he tapped in his 1996 album "Nocturne" and, more recently, "Time/Life." Adding their own compelling voices to the mix, the sisters, the material rolls (R.L.) Ringo, 184 Glendale Blvd., L.A. 8 p.m. Thu. $15. ringoclub.com.

Classical

Compiled by MATT COOPER

Allegri Quintett The ensemble performs works by Mendelssohn, Kim-ang-Sunshine Artist and Grenadine in this Da Camera Society presentation. The Mercantile, 3918 Cullen Drive, Pasadena. Today, 1 and 4 p.m. $60. (213) 477-2295.

Elisabetta Russo and Karin Mushegain Two rising opera singers share a recital. Organist Museum, 900 Lomita Vista Drive, Beverly Hills. Today, 3 p.m. $25. (310) 285-6842.

New West Symphony Respighi's "Pines of Rome," Tchaikovsky's "Capriccio Italien," Rossini's "William Tell" Overture, and a new concerto by Mike Garson. Barnum Hall Theater, Santa Monica High School, 601 Pico Blvd., Santa Monica. Today, 4 p.m. $20-$25. (805) 778-8080.

Sundays Live: Chamber Music Ensembles from Los Alamitos Musical Music Institute perform works by Beethoven, Mendelssohn and Piazzolla. Ring Theater at LACMA, 5905 Wilshire Blvd., L.A. Today, 4 p.m. Free. (323) 857-6234.

Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra Violinist Rachel Cervantes conducts the orchestra and is featured on Vivaldi's "Four Seasons" and Mozart's Violin Sonata No. 5. Also includes Kreisler's "Liebeslied" and Piazzolla's "Tango Suite." "Lonely Angel" and John Adams' "Shaker Loops." Royce Hall, UCLA, 340 Royce Drive, Westwood. Today, 7 p.m. $20 and up. (310) 852-7001.

Shuffle Play Listen Pianist Christopher O'Riley and cellist Matt Haimovitz mix classical and pop-music. Valley Performing Arts Center, 21111 Nordhoff St., Northridge. Thu., 7:30 p.m. $35, $45. (818) 677-3000.

The Bernstein Legacy Pacific Symphony's salute to Leonard Bernstein includes his Symphony No. 2, selections from "West Side Story" and "On the Town," and more. Renee and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall, 600 Town Center Drive, Costa Mesa. Thu.-Sat., 8 p.m. $25-$98. (714) 755-5799.

Late Masterworks by Mozart & Bruckner Guest conductor Robert Bernhardt leads the L.A. Phil in Bruckner's Symphony No. 9 and Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 27 featuring pianist Richard Goode. Walt Disney Concert Hall, 11 S. Grand Ave., L.A. Fri., 2 p.m.; Sat., 8 p.m.; next Sun., 2 p.m. $20-$107. (323) 850-2000.

Cinderella Pacific Symphony presents a kid-friendly version of the Rossini's opera. Renee and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall, 600 Town Center Drive, Costa Mesa. Sat., 10 and 11:30 a.m. $16 and up. (714) 755-5799.

St. Matthew Passion The Los Angeles Master Chorale, the Los Angeles Children's Chorus and Musica Angelica Baroque Orchestra unite to perform Bach's masterpiece. Walt Disney Concert Hall, 11 S. Grand Ave., L.A. Sat., 7 p.m.; next Sun., 7 p.m. $20-$139. (323) 278-3100.

Icono-Graphic Ascanesia presents the L.A. premiere of Thomas Adès' "Lieux Retrouvés (Found Places)" featuring cellist Eric Byers and pianist Gloria Cheng. Air Peter Maxwell Davies' "Orcadi Insect" (Icons of Orkney) and Ligeti's Trio for violin, trumpet (Arnold Barry Fred) and piano. Norton Church, 1260 2nd St., Santa Monica. Sat., 8 p.m. $20, $45. (323) 469-8255.

Long Beach Symphony Choral conductor Steve Keating leads the orchestra in Dvorak's Ninth Symphony, Mendelssohn's "Fingal's Cave," and Elgar's Cello Concerto in E Minor featuring cellist Cecilia Tsan. Terrace Theater, Long Beach Performing Arts Center, 300 E. Ocean Blvd., Long Beach. Sat., 8 p.m. $20 and up. (562) 436-3203.

Szymanowski Quartet The Warsaw-based ensemble performs Polish composers Grazyna Bacewicz and Szymanowski, and is joined by pianist Joseph Kalichstein for works by Dvorak and Chopin. Samuel Dorsky Museum, Segerstrom Center for the Arts, 600 Town Center Drive, Costa Mesa. Sat., 8 p.m. $39 and up. (714) 556-2787.

Therese Rapuin Long Beach Opera stages Tobias Picker's adaptation of Emile Zola's 19th-century tale of adultery, murder and madness. Warner Grand Theatre, 478 W. 6th St., San Pedro. Wed.-Sat., 7:30 p.m. $39-$104. (562) 432-5934.

Sundays Live: The Capitol Ensemble The group performs Schubert's String Quintet in C Major. Ring Theater at LACMA, 5905 Wilshire Blvd., L.A. Next Sun., 4 p.m. Free. (323) 857-6234.

MUSEUMS

Reviews by CHRISTOPHER KNIGHT (C.K.). Compiled by GRACE KYRIAKOPOULOS.

Critics' Choices

Floral Journey: Native North American Beadwork The exhibition explores the art of ribbon, an art in itself. The pictures are printed on canvas and draped to the sides of the Exhibition Hall, which is filled with glass vitrines containing 19 to 21 four (mainly) redressing wall. (L.O.). Downtown Photo Center, 1933 S. Broadway, Suite 1162, L.A.; ends Sat. (323) 359-2756.

Amir Zaki: Seeking Clarity The L.A.-based photographer presents two bodies of work here, and one gives the show's title an ironic twist. Images of the ocean, rioting in an turbulent water swells. The canvases are hung edge-to-edge and low to the floor, so that they ring several MOCA rooms. Not quite half the museum's entire floor space is filled, but they look as large as ever (C.K.). Museum of Contemporary Art, 250 S. Grand Ave., L.A. Mon. and Fri., 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sat. and Sun., 11 a.m.-6 p.m.; Thu., 11 a.m.-8 p.m.; Tue., 11 a.m.-6 p.m.; ends Feb. 9. (213) 626-6222.

GALLERIES

Reviews by LEAH OLLMAN (L.O.). Compiled by GRACE KYRIAKOPOULOS.

Critics' Choices

Meghan Smythe: A Swollen Light Behind the Eye Smythe harnesses to its fullest clay's metaphoric power to create the very stuff of life. The raw force of being and becoming, making as well as unmaking emerges through these sculptures. Their energy oscillates wildly between desperate and quiet (L.O.). Main Moore Gallery, 2525 Michigan Ave., Santa Monica. Tue.-Fri., 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sat., 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; ends Feb. 14. (310) 453-7535.

Continuing

Liz Magic Laser: The Thought Leader The site-specific video at the center of this intriguing show borrows the format of a TED talk, but tweaks it in a way that makes it more than a parody. The result is something between parody and critique, a layer cake of distorting reflection (L.O.). Various Small Fires, 612 N Highland Ave., L.A.; ends Feb. 21. (323) 455-8505.

Fredrik Nilsen The artist photographs the art of others, an art in itself. The pictures are printed on canvas and draped to the sides of the Exhibition Hall, which is filled with glass vitrines containing 19 to 21 four (mainly) redressing wall. (L.O.). Downtown Photo Center, 1933 S. Broadway, Suite 1162, L.A.; ends Sat. (323) 359-2756.

Samurai: Japanese Armor from the Am and Gabriel Barbier-Mueller Collection The touring show comes from a private Dallas museum. Its more than 100 objects of warrior regalia, 35 armors often stunningly designed accents suits of armor, line the walls in two rooms. Many are formal plates, some garments. Its dazzling remarkable lacquered stirrups, helmets — even metal fans (C.K.). Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA), 5905 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles. Mon.-Tue., Thu. 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Fri., 11 a.m.-8 p.m.; Sat.-Sun., 10 a.m.-7 p.m.; closed Wed.; ends next Sun. (323) 857-6000.

Delacroix's Greece on the Ruins of Missolonghi The vivo, romantic overtones of oil paint on canvas has pretty much had it as the steeped agents for the delivery of effective, politically minded propaganda. Painter Eugene Delacroix was a principal artistic priest on whom the total transformation began. It's as if the presence of unstoppable change pushed him to make his propaganda for he Greek struggle for freedom (C.K.). Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA), 5905 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles. Mon.-Tue., Thu. 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Fri., 11 a.m.-8 p.m.; Sat.-Sun., 10 a.m.-7 p.m.; closed Wed.; ends Feb. 15. (323) 857-6000.

Continuing

Pierre Haughe The traveling 30-year retrospective of the French Conceptual artist turns LACMA into a museum museum — a carefully orchestrated, walk-in tomb-cum-aquarium. The exhibition resembles a self-contained ecosystem of plants, sculptures, video projections and installation works, plus a variety of animals (C.K.). Los Angeles County Museum of Art, 5905 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles. Mon.-Tue., Thu. 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Fri., 11 a.m.-8 p.m.; Sat.-Sun., 10 a.m.-7 p.m.; closed Wed.; ends Feb. 15. (323) 857-6000.

Andy Warhol: Shadows Tepid and pointless, the overblown installation exists among the worst works

DANCE

Compiled by MATT COOPER

Shen Yun 2015 Orchestra of Chinese culture, music and dance. Dolby Theatre, 6801 Hollywood Blvd., Hollywood. Today, 1 p.m. Also, Valley Performing Arts Center, 18111 Nordhoff St., Northridge. Tue.-Wed., 7:30 p.m.; Thu., 1 and 7:30 p.m.; Segerstrom Center, 600 Town Center Drive, Costa Mesa. Thu.-Fri., 7:30 p.m.; Sat., 2 and 7:30 p.m.; next Sun., noon and 5 p.m. $50-$160. (800) 880-0868.

Versa-Style Dance Company The L.A.-based hip-hop troupe performs. Southern Theatre, Pepperdine University, 24255 Pacific Coast Highway, Malibu. Today, 2 p.m. $17-$35. (310) 506-4522.

Queen Groove Afro Dance Company performs choreographer Danielle Agassi's intimate, site-specific work. Third Thirst Gallery, 916 Maple Ave., L.A. Today, 6 p.m. $15, $20. (323) 288-8251.

Opposing Forces Choreographer Ajay O'Neal examines hostility in relationships. Presented by Inside Out Festival. Judy Mary Theatre, Segerstrom Center for the Arts, 600 Town Center Drive, Costa Mesa. Thu.-Sat., 7:30 p.m. $25. (714) 556-2787.

Plastic Artist and choreographer Maria Hassabi and company explore the divide between performer and viewer in this live installation performed continuously during museum hours. Performance Museum, 1399 Wilshire Blvd., Westwood. Sat., noon-8 p.m.; 2 a.m.; ends March 1. Free. (323) 857-7004.

The Scottish Music Parade The Scottish International Military Tattoo presents traditional music and dance. Carpenter Performing Arts Center, 6200 Atherton St., Long Beach. Sat., 8 p.m. $45-$65. (562) 985-7000.

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